

Francis Boott, but the original label read  
 "White Mts. of New Hampshire, J.W.  
 Boott, 1829." Who was he? I have  
 searched in deCandolle's correspondence  
 and can find no ~~clere~~ — puzzled for  
 the moment between plue & clew — although  
 for some reason no Boott letters seem  
 to be preserved.

So far as I can find from the  
 material here our American Solidag.  
Bigaurea has nothing in common —  
 except its generic affinity — with  
 the old world plant, although S.  
macrophylla in its alpine form is  
 exactly deCandolle's S.V. var. alpestris.  
 The long sought type of Bigelow's Rubus  
setosus turns up here as do many other  
 types of Bigelow, Rafinesque and other  
 early American authors who made no  
 herbaria themselves or who did not  
 keep all their own species.

Besides the great deCandolle Herbarium  
 Geneva has three others of great importance.  
 The Herbar. de Ville has as its foundation

VUE DEPUIS L'HÔTEL



GRAND HÔTEL  
 BEAU-RIVAGE

Genève

Le 15 July, 1903.

MAYER & KUNZ  
 Propriétaires

Dear Dr. Kennedy:

I was glad to  
 have your letter Saturday; but I am sorry  
 that you have been troubled with influenza.  
 I trust that it is now quite banished.

In one sense my own plans are quite as  
 indefinite as yours, for they depend alto-  
 gether on what I find in each place I  
 visit. Here, for instance I find very  
 much which it is important to make  
 notes upon for the Gray Herb. and when  
 I leave on Tuesday next I shall have  
 besides many notes tracings or photographs  
 of about 100 types in the Prodromus  
 Herbarium of the elder deCandolle.



I came here in an almost direct course from Antwerp, stopping a day or so each for general sight seeing at Bruxelles, where I had a pleasant call at the Jardin botanique de l'Etat and talked with the director, Dr. Theophile Durand, and saw Hon. Gripen who died in March had left his *Rosa* material. Then to Cologne, then Bonn to see the University and Schassburg's garden and laboratory: then by steamer on the 4<sup>th</sup> up the Rhine to Mayence. Then by way of Basel & Neuchâtel here, reaching here a week ago, on Wednesday, the 8<sup>th</sup>. Since then I have spent all my daytime, but Sunday, in the Prodrôme Herb. which is preserved in the old deCandolle house by the son of Alphonse, Dr. Casimir & his son, a young fellow of about my age, now writing a flora of Indo-China. The deCandolles are most cordial and I am enjoying very much my stay with them.

Among other things I have settled to my

own satisfaction that we have no *Plantago maritima* in America, & furthermore that none of our American forms were known to DeCandolle when he monographed the genus; that we have several forms of *P. major*, all of which are well distinguished & have clearly defined names in Europe. *Opalis cymosa*, Small, proves to be real *O. stricta*, his *O. stricta* & the old *O. Dillenii*, & his *O. filipes* & *O. Brittoniae* old species of Salisbury & of Rafinesque. M. deCandolle & I made these comparisons together & I have his backing in my conclusions.

We understand *Paraxacum erythrospermum*, *laevigatum*, & *palustre*, but the European *P. officinale*, is apparently an unusual thing with us. While our common every-day dandelion was described by deCandolle (Alphonse) as a distinct American species based on de la Pyraie's Newfound material of which I have a tracing.

*Potamogeton Boottii* it proves was not collected, as I had supposed, by

With kind regards to all,  
Very sincerely yours,

Merritt L. Fernald

VUE DEPUIS L'HÔTEL



GRAND HÔTEL  
BEAU-RIVAGE  
*Genève*

MAYER & KUNZ  
Propriétaires

The rich collection of Baron  
Dellessert, and is in charge of Prof.  
Jean Briquet, a non-teaching professor  
in the University & also director of the  
Jardin botanique founded by A.P. de Candolle.  
Then at Chambigny close by is the great  
herbarium of Boissier now owned by  
Urn Barbey a wealthy man who has  
purchased every collection he has been  
able to get hold of. Then at Vevey  
but already the property of the town of  
Geneva is the European herbarium,  
said by deCandolle & Briquet to be the  
finest representation of Continental plants,  
belonging formerly to a man whose name



like those of most Swiss & French botanists begins with B. — but that's as far as I remember. He recently offered his herb.

to Geneva if the town would build a suitable building; and now Bignet is developing a new and most interesting geographic garden & the building to contain the new herb, & that of Delesser is nearly completed — a splendid modern building with every facility for good work.

Bignet who turns out to be one of the most attractive men imaginable, and who is the recognized authority on the alpine flora & its origin has been good enough to alter his plans in order to take me on a real alpine trip far from the tourist routes & the electric roads to the summits. So on Sunday we shall start and camp that night in the heart of the Savoy alps, starting at 4 next morning up one of the calcareous snow-crowned mountains. The exact peak has not yet been settled,

but last night, which I spent most happily at Bignet's summer home, we discussed various possibilities, but as B. is in the military service & has been ordered to Neuchâtel on Saturday, our exact route must depend on his ability to get back Saturday night.

At any rate I am looking forward with great interest to the trip whatever it is.

Another very delightful bit of home life which I have enjoyed was at Strasburg, where I spent a day most happily with the old professor, Graf zu Solms-Laubach.

I wish you could be here at the same time that you are enjoying England.

I shall plan to reach Paris next Tuesday night & my work there, so here must depend on what I find. Probably I shall stay for a couple of weeks, and then to England. But of that I will write you again when I can tell more definitely. I hope we can have some little jaunts together.



Fernald, Merritt Lyndon. 1903. "Fernald, Merritt L. 15 Jul 1903." *George Golding Kennedy correspondence*

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/172899>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/284562>

**Holding Institution**

Harvard University Botany Libraries

**Sponsored by**

IMLS

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.